behavioral changes towards relevant hygiene and sanitation practices and motivate community to construct Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs), Schools and Anganwadi Toilets and Community Sanitary Complexes with financial assistance from the Central and State Governments. For IHHL, financial assistance is available to BPL households on low cost models. Rural Sanitation Marts and Production Centres are also set up to ensure easy availability of sanitation services and hardware of wide technological choices to suit every household income level. The programme also focuses on School Sanitation and Hygiene Education in school curriculum for inculcation of sanitation practices from an early age and to spread the message of sanitation through school-home-community route.

(d) The implementation unit for Total Sanitation Campaign is a district covering all rural villages in the district. Till December, 2004, TSC projects were under implementation in 452 districts.

Crisis of potable water in Rajasthan

†2447. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan falls in the category of States facing severe crisis of potable water;

(b) whether there is acute shortage of potable water and many districts of the State are facing the crisis of contaminated potable water which has fluoride contents;

(c) whether Central Government plans to provide special economic grants to Rajasthan for providing pure potable water to the public of Rajasthan under National Water Policy granting special status to Rajasthan keeping in view the potable water crisis there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Some of the State Governments, including Rajasthan, report crisis of potable water, especially during summer months. As per the Comprehensive Action Plan prepared in 1999 to cover all the rural habitations in the country with safe drinking water supply, and the subsequent coverage reported by the State, there are 91,161 fully covered, 2785 not covered habitations in the State. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State has completed a fresh habitation survey to ascertain the latest status of drinking water supply in rural habitations, including the freshly emerged habitations and those slipped back from their earlier fully covered status. These results are yet to be validated by an independent agency. As per the Water Quality Survey ordered in March, 2000, the State Government has reported 41,072 rural habitations having chemical quality problems, out of which 8992 habitations are affected with excess fluoride.

(c) and (d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance to States to accelerate coverage of rural habitations through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

The inter-State allocation criterion for ARWSP funds provide for 40% weightage for rural population, 35% for hydrological conditions, 15% for NC/PC villages and 10% for quality affected villages. The State Government can utilize 15% of the ARWSP annual allocation for tackling quality problems. 5% of ARWSP funds are ear-marked for rural water supply in DDP areas and Rajasthan get funds in proportion to the number of NSS habitation without safe sources.

Apart from these, 5% of total ARWSP funds are released for meeting contingencies arising out of natural calamities and emergent situations like drought etc.

Thus, the hydrological conditions in Rajasthan are duly reflected in the proportionate annual allocation of funds to the State.

Minimum labour component in different Rural Development Schemes

2448. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum labour component in different Rural Development Schemes;

(b) the number of mandays offered to an individual labour on average during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the steps Government contemplate to adopt to increase the number of mandays for an individual labour during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The